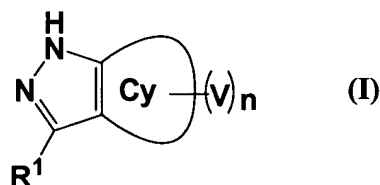


Application No.: Not Yet Assigned

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Original) A compound represented by the formula (I), a salt thereof or a hydrate of them.



Wherein,  $R^1$  designates a group represented by the formula  $-(CO)_h-(NR^a)_j-(CR^b=CR^c)_k-Ar$  (wherein  $R^a$ ,  $R^b$  and  $R^c$  each independently designate a hydrogen atom, halogen atom, hydroxyl group, an optionally substituted  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl group, an optionally substituted  $C_{2-6}$  alkenyl group, an optionally substituted  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy group, an optionally substituted  $C_{2-6}$  alkenyloxy group, an optionally substituted  $C_{1-6}$  alkylthio group, an optionally substituted  $C_{2-6}$  alkenylthio group, an optionally substituted  $C_{3-8}$  cycloalkenyl group, an optionally substituted 4- to 14-membered non-aromatic heterocyclic group, an optionally substituted  $C_{6-14}$  aryl group or an optionally substituted 5- to 14-membered heteroaryl group; Ar designates an optionally substituted  $C_{6-14}$  aryl group or an optionally substituted 5- to 14-membered heteroaryl group; and h, j and k each independently designate 0 or 1);

Cy designates a 5- to 6-membered heteroaryl group;

V designates a group represented by the formula  $-L-X-Y$  (wherein, L designates a single bond, an optionally substituted  $C_{1-6}$  alkylene group, an optionally substituted  $C_{2-6}$  alkenylene group or an optionally substituted  $C_{2-6}$  alkynylene group;

X designates a single bond, or a group represented by  $-NR^7-$ ,  $-O-$ ,  $-CO-$ ,  $-S-$ ,  $-SO-$ ,  $-SO_2-$ ,  $-CO-NR^8-Z-$ ,  $-C(O)O-$ ,  $-NR^8-CO-Z-$ ,  $-NR^8-C(O)O-$ ,  $-NR^8-S-$ ,  $-NR^8-SO-$ ,  $-NR^8-SO_2-Z-$ ,  $-NR^9-CO-$

$\text{NR}^{10}$ -,  $-\text{NR}^9\text{-CS-NR}^{10}$ -,  $-\text{S(O)}_m\text{-NR}^{11}\text{-Z}$ -,  $-\text{C(=NR}^{12})\text{-NR}^{13}$ -,  $-\text{OC(O)}$ -,  $-\text{OC(O)-NR}^{14}$ - or  $-\text{CH}_2\text{-NR}^8\text{-COR}^7$ - (wherein  $\text{R}^7$ ,  $\text{R}^8$ ,  $\text{R}^9$ ,  $\text{R}^{10}$ ,  $\text{R}^{11}$ ,  $\text{R}^{12}$ ,  $\text{R}^{13}$  and  $\text{R}^{14}$  each independently designate a hydrogen atom, halogen atom, hydroxyl group, an optionally substituted  $\text{C}_{1-6}$  alkyl group, an optionally substituted  $\text{C}_{2-6}$  alkenyl group, an optionally substituted  $\text{C}_{2-6}$  alkynyl group, an optionally substituted  $\text{C}_{1-6}$  alkoxy group, an optionally substituted  $\text{C}_{2-6}$  alkenyloxy group, an optionally substituted  $\text{C}_{1-6}$  alkylthio group, an optionally substituted  $\text{C}_{2-6}$  alkenylthio group, an optionally substituted  $\text{C}_{3-8}$  cycloalkyl group, an optionally substituted  $\text{C}_{3-8}$  cycloalkenyl group, an optionally substituted 4- to 14-membered non-aromatic heterocyclic group, an optionally substituted  $\text{C}_{6-14}$  aryl group or an optionally substituted 5- to 14-membered heteroaryl group, Z designates a single bond or an optionally substituted  $\text{C}_{1-6}$  alkylene group, and m designates 0, 1 or 2);

Y designates any one group selected from the group consisting of a hydrogen atom, halogen atom, nitro group, hydroxyl group, cyano group, carboxyl group or an optionally substituted  $\text{C}_{1-6}$  alkyl group, an optionally substituted  $\text{C}_{2-6}$  alkenyl group, an optionally substituted  $\text{C}_{2-6}$  alkynyl group, an optionally substituted  $\text{C}_{1-6}$  alkoxy group, an optionally substituted  $\text{C}_{3-8}$  cycloalkyl group, an optionally substituted  $\text{C}_{3-8}$  cycloalkenyl group, an optionally substituted 4- to 14-membered non-aromatic heterocyclic group, an optionally substituted  $\text{C}_{6-14}$  aryl group, an optionally substituted 5- to 14-membered heteroaryl group, an optionally substituted amino group and a group represented by the formula  $-\text{W-R}^{15}$  (wherein W designates CO or  $\text{SO}_2$ ;  $\text{R}^{15}$  designates an optionally substituted  $\text{C}_{1-6}$  alkyl group, an optionally substituted amino group, an optionally substituted  $\text{C}_{6-14}$  aryl group or an optionally substituted 5- to 14-membered heteroaryl group)); and

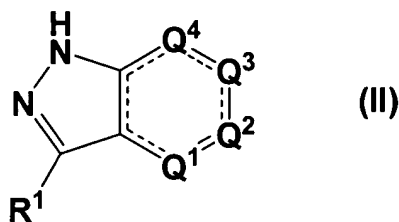
n designates 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4, and when n is 2 or more, plural Vs each independently designate -L-X-Y as defined above.

2. (Original) The compound according to claim 1, a salt thereof or a hydrate of them, wherein Cy forms a 5-membered heteroaryl group.

3. (Original) The compound according to claim 1, a salt thereof or a hydrate of them, wherein Cy forms a thiophene ring.

4. (Original) The compound according to claim 1, a salt thereof or a hydrate of them, wherein in the formula (I), the partial structure consisting of Cy and the pyrazole ring adjoining to the Cy is 1*H*-thieno[2,3-*c*]pyrazole.

5. (Original) A compound represented by the formula (II), a salt thereof or a hydrate of them.



Wherein,

Q<sup>1</sup> to Q<sup>4</sup> each independently designate -NV<sup>1</sup>-, -CV<sup>2</sup>=, -N=, -N(→O)= or -CO-, and at least one of Q<sup>1</sup> to Q<sup>4</sup> designates -NV<sup>1</sup>- or -N=, -N(→O)=; and

R<sup>1</sup> designates a group represented by the formula -(CO)<sub>h</sub>-(NR<sup>a</sup>)<sub>j</sub>-(CR<sup>b</sup>=CR<sup>c</sup>)<sub>k</sub>-Ar (wherein R<sup>a</sup>, R<sup>b</sup> and R<sup>c</sup> each independently designate a hydrogen atom, halogen atom, hydroxyl group, an optionally substituted C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl group, an optionally substituted C<sub>2-6</sub> alkenyl group, an optionally substituted C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy group, an optionally substituted C<sub>2-6</sub> alkenyloxy group, an optionally substituted C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylthio group, an optionally substituted C<sub>2-6</sub> alkenylthio group, an optionally

substituted C<sub>3-8</sub> cycloalkenyl group, an optionally substituted 4- to 14-membered non-aromatic heterocyclic group, an optionally substituted C<sub>6-14</sub> aryl group or an optionally substituted 5- to 14-membered heteroaryl group; Ar designates an optionally substituted C<sub>6-14</sub> aryl group or an optionally substituted 5- to 14-membered heteroaryl group; and h, j and k each independently designate 0 or 1),

V<sup>1</sup> and V<sup>2</sup> each independently designate a group represented by the formula -L-X-Y (wherein, L designates a single bond, an optionally substituted C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylene group, an optionally substituted C<sub>2-6</sub> alkenylene group or an optionally substituted C<sub>2-6</sub> alkynylene group; X designates a single bond, or a group represented by -NR<sup>7</sup>-, -O-, -CO-, -S-, -SO-, -SO<sub>2</sub>-, -CO-NR<sup>8</sup>-Z-, -C(O)O-, -NR<sup>8</sup>-CO-Z-, -NR<sup>8</sup>-C(O)O-, -NR<sup>8</sup>-S-, -NR<sup>8</sup>-SO-, -NR<sup>8</sup>-SO<sub>2</sub>-Z-, -NR<sup>9</sup>-CO-NR<sup>10</sup>-, -NR<sup>9</sup>-CS-NR<sup>10</sup>-, -S(O)<sub>m</sub>-NR<sup>11</sup>-Z-, -C(=NR<sup>12</sup>)-NR<sup>13</sup>-, -OC(O)-, -OC(O)-NR<sup>14</sup>- or -CH<sub>2</sub>-NR<sup>8</sup>-COR<sup>7</sup>- (wherein R<sup>7</sup>, R<sup>8</sup>, R<sup>9</sup>, R<sup>10</sup>, R<sup>11</sup>, R<sup>12</sup>, R<sup>13</sup> and R<sup>14</sup> each independently designate a hydrogen atom, halogen atom, hydroxyl group, an optionally substituted C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl group, an optionally substituted C<sub>2-6</sub> alkenyl group, an optionally substituted C<sub>2-6</sub> alkynyl group, an optionally substituted C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy group, an optionally substituted C<sub>2-6</sub> alkenyloxy group, an optionally substituted C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylthio group, an optionally substituted C<sub>2-6</sub> alkenylthio group, an optionally substituted C<sub>3-8</sub> cycloalkyl group, an optionally substituted C<sub>3-8</sub> cycloalkenyl group, an optionally substituted 4- to 14-membered non-aromatic heterocyclic group, an optionally substituted C<sub>6-14</sub> aryl group or an optionally substituted 5- to 14-membered heteroaryl group, Z designates a single bond or an optionally substituted C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylene group, and m designates 0, 1 or 2); and

Y designates any one group selected from the group consisting of a hydrogen atom, halogen atom, nitro group, hydroxyl group, cyano group, carboxyl group or an optionally substituted C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl group, an optionally substituted C<sub>2-6</sub> alkenyl group, an optionally substituted C<sub>2-6</sub> alkynyl group, an optionally substituted C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy group, an optionally substituted C<sub>3-8</sub> cycloalkyl group, an optionally substituted C<sub>3-8</sub> cycloalkenyl group, an optionally substituted 4- to 14-membered non-aromatic heterocyclic group, an optionally substituted C<sub>6-14</sub> aryl group, an optionally substituted 5- to 14-membered heteroaryl group, an optionally substituted amino group and a group represented by the formula -W-R<sup>15</sup> (wherein W designates CO or SO<sub>2</sub>; and R<sup>15</sup> designates an optionally substituted C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl group, an optionally substituted amino group, an optionally substituted C<sub>6-14</sub> aryl group or an optionally substituted 5- to 14-membered heteroaryl group).

6. (Original) The compound according to claim 5, a salt thereof or a hydrate of them, wherein among Q<sup>1</sup> to Q<sup>4</sup>, either one is -N=, and the others are -CV<sup>2</sup>=.

7. (Original) The compound according to claim 5, a salt thereof or a hydrate of them, wherein among Q<sup>1</sup> to Q<sup>4</sup>, either one of Q<sup>1</sup>, Q<sup>3</sup> and Q<sup>4</sup> is -N=, and the others are -CV<sup>2</sup>=.

8. (Original) The compound according to claim 6, a salt thereof or a hydrate of them, wherein Q<sup>1</sup> is -N=.

9. (Original) The compound according to claim 6, a salt thereof or a hydrate of them, wherein Q<sup>2</sup> is -N=.

10. (Original) The compound according to claim 6, a salt thereof or a hydrate of them, wherein Q<sup>3</sup> is -N=.

11. (Original) The compound according to claim 6, a salt thereof or a hydrate of them, wherein  $Q^4$  is  $-N=$ .

12. (Original) The compound according to claim 5, a salt thereof or a hydrate of them, wherein among  $Q^1$  to  $Q^4$ , either two are  $-N=$ , and the others are  $-CV^2=$ .

13. (Original) The compound according to claim 12, a salt thereof or a hydrate of them, wherein among  $Q^1$  to  $Q^4$ , either two of  $Q_1$ ,  $Q_3$  and  $Q_4$  are  $-N=$ , and the others are  $-CV^2=$ .

14. (Original) The compound according to any one of claims 5 to 13, a salt thereof or a hydrate of them, wherein when either of  $Q^1$ ,  $Q^3$  and  $Q^4$  is  $-CV^2=$ , the  $-CV^2=$  in  $Q^1$ ,  $Q^3$  or  $Q^4$  is  $-CH=$ .

15. (Original) The compound according to claim 5, a salt thereof or a hydrate of them, wherein among  $Q^1$  to  $Q^4$ , either three are  $-N=$ , and the other is  $-CV^2=$ .

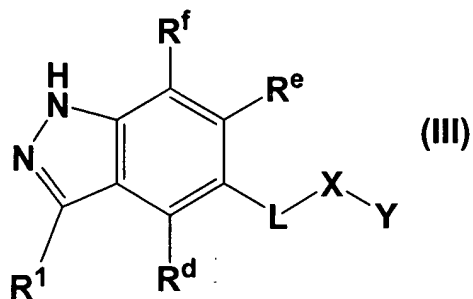
16. (Original) The compound according to claim 15, a salt thereof or a hydrate of them, wherein  $Q^1$ ,  $Q^3$  and  $Q^4$  are  $-N=$ .

17. (Original) The compound according to claim 5, a salt thereof or a hydrate of them, wherein among  $Q^1$  to  $Q^4$ , at least one is  $-CO-$ .

18. (Original) The compound according to claim 5, a salt thereof or a hydrate of them, wherein  $Q^1$  is  $-CO-$ ,  $Q^2$  is  $-NV^1-$ , and  $Q^3$  and  $Q_4$  are  $-CV^2=$ .

19. (Original) The compound according to claim 5, a salt thereof or a hydrate of them, wherein  $Q^3$  is  $-CO-$ ,  $Q^2$  is  $-NV^1-$ , and  $Q^1$  and  $Q_4$  are  $-CV^2=$ .

20. (Original) A compound represented by the formula (III), a salt thereof or a hydrate of them.



Wherein

$R^1$  designates a group represented by the formula  $-(CO)_h-(NR^a)_j-(CR^b=CR^c)_k-Ar$  (wherein  $R^a$ ,  $R^b$  and  $R^c$  each independently designate a hydrogen atom, halogen atom, hydroxyl group, an optionally substituted  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl group, an optionally substituted  $C_{2-6}$  alkenyl group, an optionally substituted  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy group, an optionally substituted  $C_{2-6}$  alkenyloxy group, an optionally substituted  $C_{1-6}$  alkylthio group, an optionally substituted  $C_{2-6}$  alkenylthio group, an optionally substituted  $C_{3-8}$  cycloalkenyl group, an optionally substituted 4- to 14-membered non-aromatic heterocyclic group, an optionally substituted  $C_{6-14}$  aryl group or an optionally substituted 5- to 14-membered heteroaryl group;  $Ar$  designates an optionally substituted  $C_{6-14}$  aryl group or an optionally substituted 5- to 14-membered heteroaryl group; and  $h$ ,  $j$  and  $k$  each independently designate 0 or 1, provided that when  $h$  and  $j$  are 0,  $k$  is 1);

$R^d$ ,  $R^e$  and  $R^f$  each independently designate a hydrogen atom, halogen atom, hydroxyl group, cyano group, nitro group, carboxyl group, an optionally substituted  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl group, an optionally substituted  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy group, an optionally substituted  $C_{2-7}$  acyl group,  $-CO-NR^{2a}R^{2b}$ ,  $-NR^{2b}CO-R^{2a}$  or  $-NR^{2a}R^{2b}$  (wherein  $R^{2a}$  and  $R^{2b}$  each independently designate a hydrogen atom or an optionally substituted  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl group);

$L$  designates a single bond, an optionally substituted  $C_{1-6}$  alkylene group, an optionally substituted  $C_{2-6}$  alkenylene group or an optionally substituted  $C_{2-6}$  alkynylene group;

X designates a single bond, or a group represented by  $\text{-NR}^7\text{-}$ ,  $\text{-O-}$ ,  $\text{-CO-}$ ,  $\text{-S-}$ ,  $\text{-SO-}$ ,  $\text{-SO}_2\text{-}$ ,  $\text{-CO-NR}^8\text{-Z-}$ ,  $\text{-C(O)O-}$ ,  $\text{-NR}^8\text{-CO-Z-}$ ,  $\text{-NR}^8\text{-C(O)O-}$ ,  $\text{-NR}^8\text{-S-}$ ,  $\text{-NR}^8\text{-SO-}$ ,  $\text{-NR}^8\text{-SO}_2\text{-Z-}$ ,  $\text{-NR}^9\text{-CO-NR}^{10}\text{-}$ ,  $\text{-NR}^9\text{-CS-NR}^{10}\text{-}$ ,  $\text{-S(O)}_m\text{-NR}^{11}\text{-Z-}$ ,  $\text{-C(=NR}^{12})\text{-NR}^{13}\text{-}$ ,  $\text{-OC(O)-}$ ,  $\text{-OC(O)-NR}^{14}\text{-}$  or  $\text{-CH}_2\text{-NR}^8\text{-COR}^7\text{-}$  (wherein  $\text{R}^7$ ,  $\text{R}^8$ ,  $\text{R}^9$ ,  $\text{R}^{10}$ ,  $\text{R}^{11}$ ,  $\text{R}^{12}$ ,  $\text{R}^{13}$  and  $\text{R}^{14}$  each independently designate a hydrogen atom, halogen atom, hydroxyl group, an optionally substituted  $\text{C}_{1-6}$  alkyl group, an optionally substituted  $\text{C}_{2-6}$  alkenyl group, an optionally substituted  $\text{C}_{2-6}$  alkynyl group, an optionally substituted  $\text{C}_{1-6}$  alkoxy group, an optionally substituted  $\text{C}_{2-6}$  alkenyloxy group, an optionally substituted  $\text{C}_{1-6}$  alkylthio group, an optionally substituted  $\text{C}_{2-6}$  alkenylthio group, an optionally substituted  $\text{C}_{3-8}$  cycloalkyl group, an optionally substituted  $\text{C}_{3-8}$  cycloalkenyl group, an optionally substituted 4- to 14-membered non-aromatic heterocyclic group, an optionally substituted  $\text{C}_{6-14}$  aryl group or an optionally substituted 5- to 14-membered heteroaryl group, Z designates a single bond or an optionally substituted  $\text{C}_{1-6}$  alkylene group, and m designates 0, 1 or 2); and

Y designates any one group selected from the group consisting of a hydrogen atom, halogen atom, nitro group, hydroxyl group, cyano group, carboxyl group or an optionally substituted  $\text{C}_{1-6}$  alkyl group, an optionally substituted  $\text{C}_{2-6}$  alkenyl group, an optionally substituted  $\text{C}_{2-6}$  alkynyl group, an optionally substituted  $\text{C}_{1-6}$  alkoxy group, an optionally substituted  $\text{C}_{3-8}$  cycloalkyl group, an optionally substituted  $\text{C}_{3-8}$  cycloalkenyl group, an optionally substituted 4- to 14-membered non-aromatic heterocyclic group, an optionally substituted  $\text{C}_{6-14}$  aryl group, an optionally substituted 5- to 14-membered heteroaryl group, an optionally substituted amino group and a group represented by the formula  $\text{-W-R}^{15}$  (wherein W designates CO or  $\text{SO}_2$ ; and  $\text{R}^{15}$  designates an optionally substituted  $\text{C}_{1-6}$  alkyl group, an optionally



substituted amino group, an optionally substituted C<sub>6-14</sub> aryl group or an optionally substituted 5- to 14-membered heteroaryl group).

21. (Original) The compound according to claim 20, a salt thereof or a hydrate of them, wherein at least one of R<sup>d</sup>, R<sup>e</sup> and R<sup>f</sup> is not a hydrogen atom.

22. (Original) The compound according to claim 20, a salt thereof or a hydrate of them, wherein either one of R<sup>d</sup>, R<sup>e</sup> and R<sup>f</sup> is a halogen atom or an optionally substituted C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy group.

23. (Original) The compound according to any one of claims 20 to 22, a salt thereof or a hydrate of them, wherein at least one of R<sup>b</sup> and R<sup>c</sup> is not a hydrogen atom, and L is a single bond, an optionally substituted C<sub>2-6</sub> alkenylene group or an optionally substituted C<sub>2-6</sub> alkynylene group, provided that, when L is a single bond, the case where X is a single bond, and Y is an optionally substituted C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl group, an optionally substituted C<sub>3-8</sub> cycloalkyl group, an optionally substituted C<sub>3-8</sub> cycloalkenyl group, an optionally substituted 4- to 14-membered non-aromatic heterocyclic group, an optionally substituted C<sub>6-14</sub> aryl group or an optionally substituted 5- to 14-membered heteroaryl group is excluded.

24. (Currently amended) The compound according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 22~~ claim 1, a salt thereof or a hydrate of them, wherein at least either h or j is 1.

25. (Currently amended) The compound according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 22~~ claim 1, a salt thereof or a hydrate of them, wherein h and j are 0, and k is 1.

26. (Currently amended) The compound according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 19~~ claim 1, a salt thereof or a hydrate of them, wherein h, j and k are 0.

27. (Currently amended) The compound according to ~~any one of claims 24 and 25~~ claim 24, a salt thereof or a hydrate of them, wherein R<sup>b</sup> and/or R<sup>c</sup> are(is) a hydrogen atom.

28. (Original) The compound according to claim 27, a salt thereof or a hydrate of them, wherein R<sup>b</sup> and R<sup>c</sup> are a hydrogen atom.

29. (Currently amended) The compound according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 28~~ claim 1, a salt thereof or a hydrate of them, wherein Ar is a C<sub>6-14</sub> aryl group or a 5- to 14-membered heteroaryl group, and Ar is a group which may be substituted with 1 to 3 group(s) selected from the following substituent group (a):

<Substituent group a> the group consisting of (1) each optionally substituted (a) C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl groups, (b) C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, (c) C<sub>1-7</sub> acyl groups, (d) amide group, (e) amino group, (f) C<sub>3-8</sub> cycloalkyl groups, (2) halogen atom, (3) hydroxyl group, (4) nitro group, (5) cyano group, and (6) carboxyl group.

30. (Original) The compound according to claim 29, a salt thereof or a hydrate of them, wherein Ar is a phenyl group, naphthyl group or a 5- to 10-membered heteroaryl group, and Ar is a group optionally substituted with 1 to 3 group(s) selected from Substituent group A described in claim 29.

31. (Original) The compound according to claim 29, a salt thereof or a hydrate of them, wherein Ar is a phenyl group, 2-naphthyl group, pyridyl group, 2-thienyl group, 2-furyl group, 2-benzofuryl group, 2-quinolyl group or 2-benzothienyl group, and Ar is a group optionally substituted with 1 to 3 group(s) selected from Substituent group A described in claim 29.

32. (Original) The compound according to claim 29, a salt thereof or a hydrate of them, wherein Ar is a phenyl group, pyridyl group, 2-thienyl group or 2-furyl group, and Ar is a group

optionally substituted with 1 to 3 group(s) selected from Substituent group A described in claim 29.

33. (Original) The compound according to claim 29, a salt thereof or a hydrate of them, wherein Ar is a 2-naphthyl group, 2-benzofuryl group, 2-quinolyl group or 2-benzothienyl group, and Ar is a group optionally substituted with 1 to 3 group(s) selected from Substituent group a described in claim 29.

34. (Currently amended) The compound according to ~~any one of claims 29 to 33~~ claim 29, a salt thereof or a hydrate of them, wherein Substituent group A is the group consisting of (1) C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl groups each optionally substituted with 1 to 3 group(s) selected from the group consisting of a halogen atom, hydroxyl group and cyano group, (2) C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups optionally substituted with 1 to 3 group(s) selected from the group consisting of a halogen atom, hydroxyl group and cyano group, (3) halogen atom, (4) hydroxyl group, (5) cyano group, and (6) C<sub>1-7</sub> acyl groups.

35. (Currently amended) The compound according to ~~any one of claims 29 to 33~~ claim 29, a salt thereof or a hydrate of them, wherein Substituent group A is a halogen atom.

36. (Currently amended) The compound according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 35~~ claim 1, a salt thereof or a hydrate of them, wherein L is a single bond or methylene group.

37. (Original) The compound according to claim 36, a salt thereof or a hydrate of them, wherein L is a single bond.

38. (Currently amended) The compound according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 37~~ claim 1, a salt thereof or a hydrate of them, wherein X is a group represented by -CO-NR<sup>8</sup>-Z-, -NR<sup>8</sup>-CO-

Z- or -NR<sup>8</sup>-SO<sub>2</sub>-Z- (wherein R<sup>8</sup> and Z have the same meanings as defined for R<sup>8</sup> and Z in claim 1).

39. (Original) The compound according to claim 38, a salt thereof or a hydrate of them, wherein R<sup>8</sup> is a hydrogen atom.

40. (Original) The compound according to claim 38, a salt thereof or a hydrate of them, wherein X is a group represented by -CO-NH-(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>t</sub>- (wherein t designates 0 or 1).

41. (Original) The compound according to claim 38, a salt thereof or a hydrate of them, wherein X is a group represented by -NH-CO-(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>t</sub>- (wherein t designates 0 or 1).

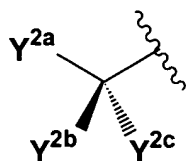
42. (Currently amended) The compound according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 37~~ claim 1, a salt thereof or a hydrate of them, wherein X is a single bond.

43. (Currently amended) The compound according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 42~~ claim 1, a salt thereof or a hydrate of them, wherein Y is a C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl group, a C<sub>6-14</sub> aryl group, a C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy group, a C<sub>3-8</sub> cycloalkyl group, a 4- to 14-membered non-aromatic heterocyclic group or a 5- to 14-membered heteroaryl group, and Y is a group optionally substituted with 1 to 3 group(s) selected from the following Substituent group a2:

<Substituent group a2> the group consisting of (1) each optionally substituted (a) C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl groups, (b) C<sub>2-6</sub> alkenyl groups, (c) C<sub>2-6</sub> alkynyl groups, (d) C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, (e) C<sub>2-7</sub> acyl groups, (f) amide group, (g) amino group, (h) C<sub>3-8</sub> cycloalkyl groups, (i) C<sub>3-8</sub> cycloalkenyl groups, (j) C<sub>6-14</sub> aryl groups, (k) 5- to 14-membered heteroaryl groups, (l) C<sub>6-14</sub> aryloxy groups, and (m) 4- to 14-membered non-aromatic heterocyclic groups, (2) halogen atom, (3) hydroxyl group, (4) nitro group, (5) cyano group, and (6) carboxyl group.

44. (Original) The compound according to claim 43, a salt thereof or a hydrate of them, wherein Y is a C<sub>3-8</sub> cycloalkyl group, phenyl group, a 5- or 6-membered non-aromatic heterocyclic group, or a 5- or 6-membered heteroaryl group, and Y is a group optionally substituted with 1 to 3 group(s) selected from Substituent group a2 described in claim 43.

45. (Currently amended) The compound according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 42~~ claim 1, a salt thereof or a hydrate of them, wherein Y is a furyl group, thienyl group, pyrrolyl group, phenyl group, pyridyl group, C<sub>3-8</sub> cycloalkyl group, tetrahydrofuran-yl group, tetrahydrothiophene-yl group, pyrrolidinyl group, tetrahydrofuran-2-on-yl group, pyrrolidine-2-on-yl group or a group represented by the formula:



(wherein Y<sup>2a</sup> designates a group represented by -CONH<sub>2</sub> or -CH<sub>2</sub>OH, Y<sup>2b</sup> and Y<sup>2c</sup> each independently designate a hydrogen atom, an optionally substituted phenyl group or an optionally substituted C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl group), and Y is a group optionally substituted with 1 to 3 group(s) selected from Substituent group a2 described in claim 43.

46. (Original) The compound according to claim 43, a salt thereof or a hydrate of them, wherein Y is a furyl group or thienyl group, and Y is a group optionally substituted with 1 to 3 group(s) selected from Substituent group a2 described in claim 43.

47. (Currently amended) The compound according to ~~any one of claims 43 to 46~~ claim 43, a salt thereof or a hydrate of them, wherein Substituent group a2 is the group consisting of (1) (a) C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl groups, (b) C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, (c) C<sub>1-7</sub> acyl groups, (d) amide group, (e) amino

group, (f) C<sub>3-8</sub> cycloalkyl groups, each of which may be substituted with 1 to 3 group(s) selected from the following Substituent group b2, (2) halogen atom, (3) hydroxyl group, (4) nitro group, (5) cyano group, and (6) carboxyl group, and <Substituent group b2> is the group consisting of C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl groups, halogen atom, hydroxyl group, nitro group, cyano group and carboxyl group.

48. (Currently amended) The compound according to ~~any one of claims 43 to 46~~ claim 43, a salt thereof or a hydrate of them, wherein Substituent group a2 is the group consisting of (1) C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy groups, (2) halogen atoms and (3) cyano groups.

49. (Currently amended) The compound according to ~~any one of claims 20 to 35~~ claim 20, a salt thereof or a hydrate of them, wherein L and X are a single bond, Y is a 5- to 6-membered heteroaryl group, and Y is a group optionally substituted with 1 to 3 group(s) selected from Substituent group a2 described in claim 43.

50. (Currently amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising the compound according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 49~~ claim 1, a salt thereof or a hydrate of them, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

51. (Currently amended) A c-Jun amino-terminal kinase (JNKs) inhibitor comprising the compound according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 49~~ claim 1, a salt thereof or a hydrate of them.

52. (Currently amended) A c-Jun amino-terminal kinase 1 (JNK 1), c-Jun amino-terminal kinase 2 (JNK 2) and/or c-Jun amino-terminal kinase 3 (JNK 3) inhibitor, comprising the compound according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 49~~ claim 1, a salt thereof or a hydrate of them.

53. (Currently amended) An agent for treating or preventing immunological diseases, inflammatory diseases or metabolic disorders, which comprises the compound according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 49~~ claim 1, a salt thereof or a hydrate of them.

54. (Currently amended) An agent for treating or preventing neurodegenerative diseases, which comprises the compound according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 49~~ claim 1, a salt thereof or a hydrate of them.

55. (Currently amended) An agent for treating or preventing Alzheimer's disease, Parkinson's disease, Huntington's chorea, amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, multiple sclerosis or spinocerebellar degeneration, which comprises the compound according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 49~~ claim 1, a salt thereof or a hydrate of them.

56. (Currently amended) Use of the compound according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 49~~ claim 1, a salt thereof or a hydrate of them for prevention or treatment of immunological diseases, inflammatory diseases, metabolic disorders and/or neurodegenerative diseases.

57. (Currently amended) Use of the compound according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 49~~ claim 1, a salt thereof or a hydrate of them, for producing an agent for treating or preventing a disease based on JNK action against which inhibition of a c-Jun amino-terminal kinase (JNK) is effective for prevention or treatment, immunological diseases, inflammatory diseases, metabolic disorders or neurodegenerative diseases.

58. (Original) The use according to claim 57, wherein the disease is Alzheimer's disease, Parkinson's disease, Huntington's chorea, amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, multiple sclerosis or spinocerebellar degeneration.

59. (Currently amended) A method for treating or preventing a disease based on JNK 3 action against which inhibition of a c-Jun amino-terminal kinase 3 (JNK 3) is effective for prevention or treatment, immunological diseases, inflammatory diseases, metabolic disorders and/or neurodegenerative diseases, which comprises administering a pharmacologically

effective amount of the compound according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 49~~ claim 1, a salt thereof or a hydrate of them to a patient.

60. (Currently amended) A method for treating or preventing a disease based on JNK action against which inhibition of a c-Jun amino-terminal kinase (JNK) is effective for prevention or treatment, immunological diseases, inflammatory diseases, metabolic disorders or neurodegenerative diseases, which comprises administering a pharmacologically effective amount of the compound according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 49~~ claim 1, a salt thereof or a hydrate of them to a patient.

61. (Original) The method according to claim 60, wherein the disease is Alzheimer's disease, Parkinson's disease, Huntington's chorea, amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, multiple sclerosis or spinocerebellar degeneration.